# THE MENACE OF WEEDS TO SPRING WHEAT RAISING

## IN THE FOUR STATES

## MINNESOTA; NORTH DAKOTA; SOUTH DAKOTA & MONTANA

### AUTHORITY

Report Nº 108, dated 28th Jan. 1924, of the 9th Federal Reserve District

By

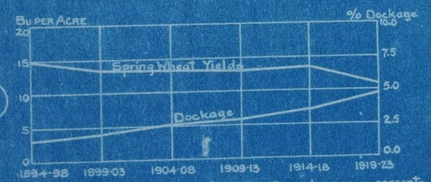
John H. Rich, Federal Reserve Agent to Federal Reserve Board

at

WASHINGTON D.C.

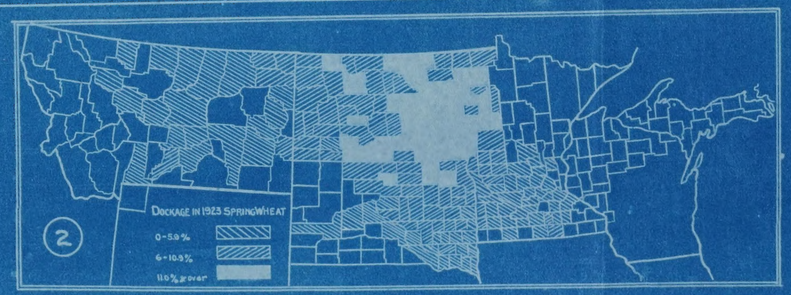
Graph Nº 76. Compiled by R.D. Bruce under the direction of Wm Pearce. Calgary. March 5th 1924.

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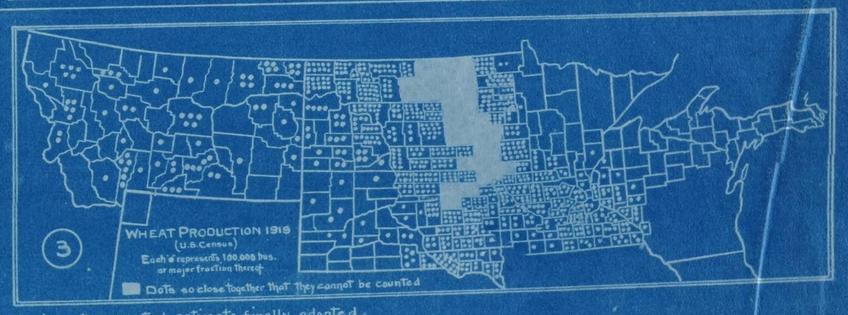



Average yield per acre of Spring Wheat; and average percentage of Dockage in Spring Wheat receipts at Minneapolis Terminals. Averages as for five-year periods.

(2)




(3)




Report Nº 108 vouches for accuracy of above Maps or Diagrams, compiled from three different and independent sources; when a conflict arose, a re-survey was made & the lowest corrected estimate finally adopted.

NOTE :— It is interesting to note that the percentage of Dockage closely corresponds with Total Wheat Production. The increased percentage being caused probably by being cropped for a longer period.

### TOTAL WHEAT & DOCKAGE FOR THE 4 STATES IN 1923.

Scale 1" = 10.000.000 Bushels.

(4)

Total Wheat & Dockage = 153.300.000 Bushels

Dockage = 11.650.800 Bushels = 7.6 %

NOTE :— The Farmers in N. & S. Dakota & Minnesota gained 7.3 cents per bushel, as result of cleaning before marketing.

DOCKAGE REACHING MINNEAPOLIS IN 1922. (5) = 7.500.000 Bushels

Cost of Threshing said Dockage = $ 675.000

Cost of Tranportation of said Dockage = $ 800.000

### DOCKAGE IN % for 1923

Scale 1" = 10 %

(6)

| | |
|---|---|
| N. Dakota | 11.3 % |
| S. " | 7.7 % |
| Minnesota | 7.2 % |
| Montana | 2.5 % |

According to the Dean Coffey College of Agriculture University of Minnesota : 10 lbs of Dockage and 3 lbs of leguminous hay will add 1 lb in weight to a 25 lb Lamb, which extra weight is valued at 12 cents per lb. Putting on 20 lbs on each Lamb, the following is the Nº of Lambs and the added value that could be so fed by the Dockage from the said States.

(7)

| State | Nº of Lambs | Value of excess in weight |
|---|---|---|
| N. Dakota | 3.241.900 | $ 5.380.560 |
| S. Dakota | 650.400 | $ 1.560.960 |
| Minnesota | 448.800 | $ 1.077.120 |
| Montana | 307.200 | $ 737.280 |
| Total | 3.648.300 | $ 8.755 920 |

### COMMENTS

The Canadian West will in a few years be as bad as North Dakota unless rigid means are taken to prevent the growth and dissemination of weeds.

The Spring Wheat areas are more productive of weeds than any other of the grains. Weeds in turn mean Dockage If the grain cannot be cleaned on the farm where produced, it ought to be at the first elevator it goes into Elevator Proprietors object to cleaning, should they not be compelled to do so providing they are paid the cost of same. At present the Elevators generally are not fitted to do the cleaning, but cleaning apparatus can be installed and operated at a moderate cost. It is absurd to pay freight on Dockage to the Terminal Elevators, and an equal amount of freight on its return to point where consumed.

There is a machine being perfected which is intended to accompany the threshing machinery. It is a separate unit, but intended to thoroughly clean the grain as fast as threshed. Further; in the Dockage itself it will separate the coarse edible seeds from the fine ones, the latter generally not being good for Stock feeding purposes.

### REMEDIES AS PER REPORT.

The cleaning of Wheat and keeping the Dockage at home, of course, feeding it out and thereby replacing to some extent, the exhausted fertility of the soil. Dockage can be fed to sheep without grinding, but for cattle, hogs or poultry it should be ground.

For keeping clear of weeds sheep are the best stock. They trim up the weeds growing along the fences and roads and on any summer fallowing, and feeding the Dockage to them is probably its most profitable disposition.

Proper management of soil, judicious selection of crops for rotation and prohibiting stubbling in of crops is advisable. If rye, buckwheat or some other rapidly maturing crop is grown thickly it will check the weeds and by ploughing in the whole growth before the grain and seeds are matured, the result is a good fertilizer and binder of the soil to prevent drifting.

Where possible grow alfalfa, white clover or other thickly growing legumes, they will choke out the weeds and enrich the soil from the bacteria attached to the roots.

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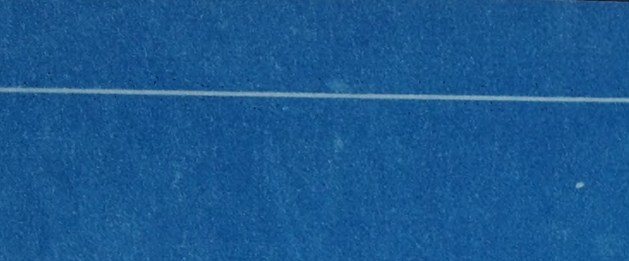
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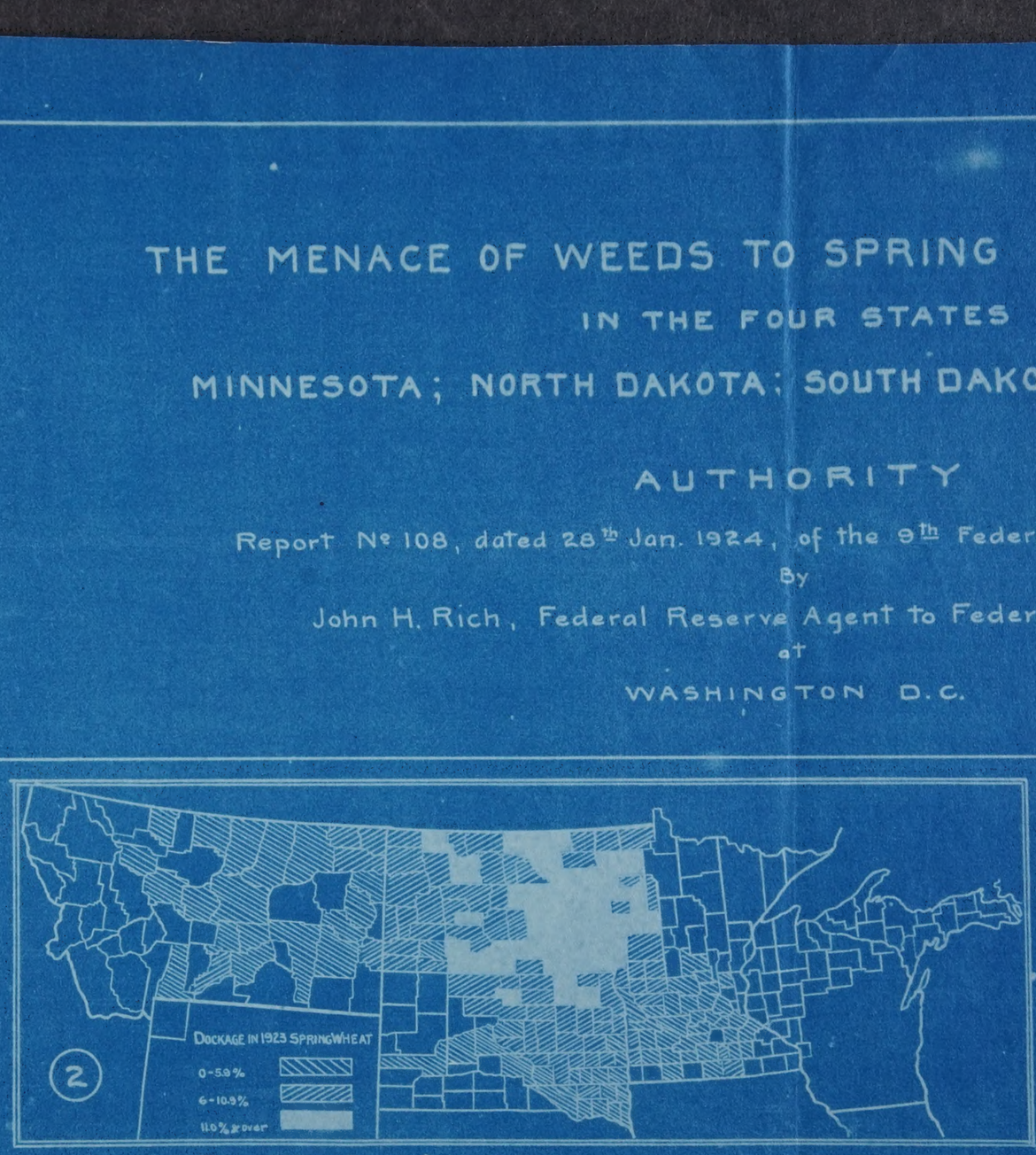
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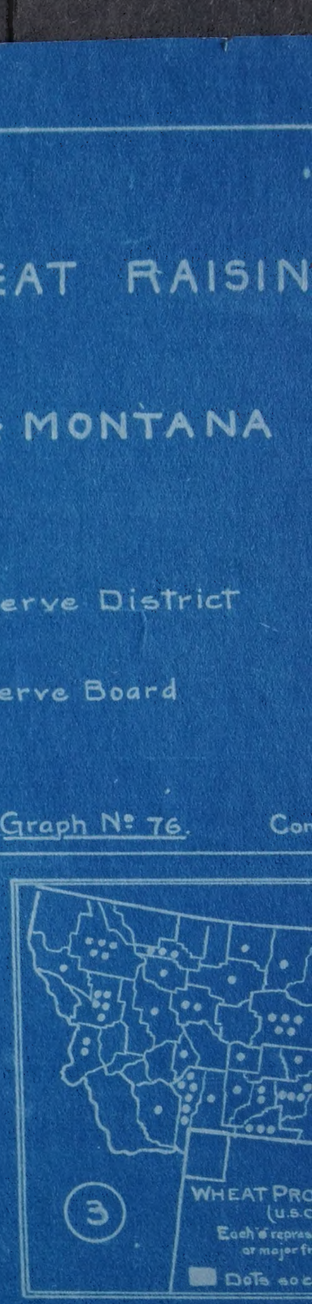



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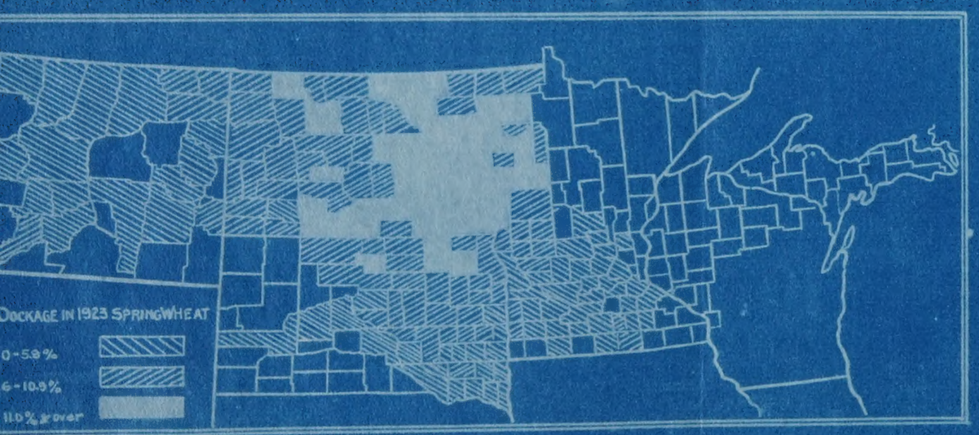
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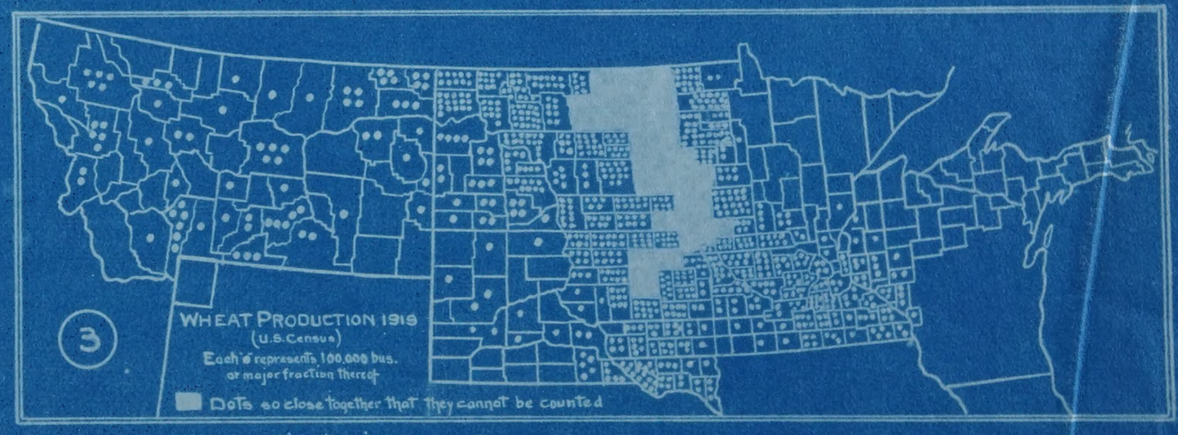
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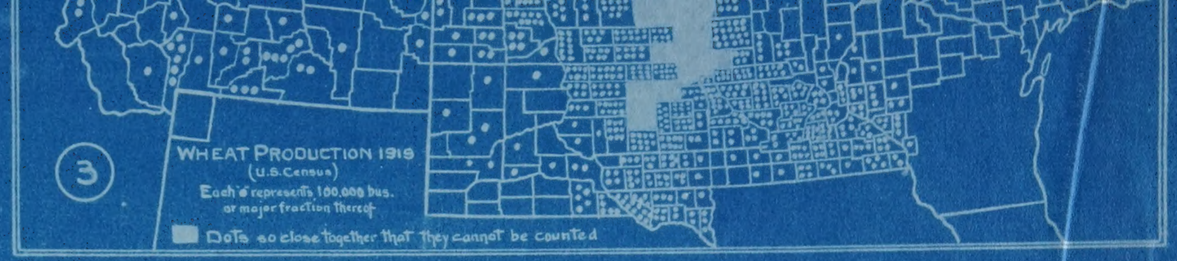
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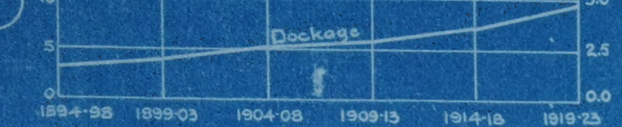
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